

From: Michelle Garrette [mailto:michellegarrette@gmail.com]
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Subject: Council Meeting Testimony, Bill 10 - SUPPORT

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Dear Honorable Council Members,

Please support Bill 10, an ordinance to reduce single-use plastic bag waste. Plastic ocean pollution is a global issue, with regional solutions.

Plastic bags are a costly, environmentally damaging, and easily preventable source of litter and pollution. Light and aerodynamic, plastic bags are uniquely litter-prone even when properly disposed of, and pose a serious threat to our marine environment and wildlife. When they are no longer visible to the naked eye, plastic bags are still not fully gone but instead have photo-degraded into tiny particles that adsorb toxins and contaminate our food chain and water and soil quality.

Hawaii's ocean-based economy is threatened by plastic bags that litter its beaches and streets and impact its marine wildlife. Plastic pollution has harmed at least 267 species of birds, sea turtles, and marine mammals. We all want clean beaches and healthy wildlife in Hawaii. Maui, Kauai, and most recently Hawaii Counties have already passed ordinances to move towards this, and it's time for Honolulu County to do the same.

Please take a stand and support an ordinance on single-use plastic bags. Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

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